

THE CARBONDALE MIRROR

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25c

Busy

Attempted suicides, fights
kept city police busy Friday
night.

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Burglars

City police charged three with
some recent city burglaries.

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AREA'S MOBILE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT races out of garage at St. Joseph's Hospital. New emergency medical care unit went into operation last Monday morning. On Sunday, the MIRROR's Nan Waters spent part of a 12-hour shift with the crew. See resulting story this page. (MIRROR photo by Ros-Al)

Mobile 2 streaks into action with reporter

By NAN WATERS

It was dusk. The flashing red lights of Mobile 2 cast a ghastly pallor across the concerned faces of its paramedics, and the ambulance attendants as they lifted the patient into the fire company vehicle.

Paramedic Ted Evans, 20, of Lake Winola, climbed into the ambulance with the volunteers, the woman patient and her husband. His partner, 26-year-old Ron Tezzano, 61 Fallbrook St., slipped into the driver's seat of Mobile 2 and followed the ambulance back to St. Joseph's Hospital.

Mobile 2 part one

The patient had been troubled with chest pains all week and had consulted her physician. Although she had no history of cardiac problems, Mobile 2 attendants were taking no chances. Any chest pain means "you can't rule out heart attack," Tezzano commented.

The patient had been placed on a heart monitor, administered oxygen and given DSW, a solution of dextrose and five percent water, on the orders of the Emergency Room physician at St. Joseph's. Her heart-beat was irregular, and she was beginning to "throw PVC's" — premature ventricular contractions.

Back at the hospital, there was paperwork to be done, equipment and supplies to be repacked. Mobile 2 had completed its 11th run — 10 had been logged in the first six days of its operation, beginning Nov. 23.

Mobile 2's reaction time between the call and arrival at the patient's home, just a few blocks from St. Joseph's was approximately 90 seconds!

12-hour shift
The Carbondale Mirror spent eleven hours of a 12-hour Sunday shift with the

Gets first buck

Joe Scotch, Jr., 8 Hospital St., Carbondale, shot a four-point buck Monday morning about 7:15 a.m. This was the first buck the junior at Carbondale Area High School has shot.

paramedics of Mobile 2, the new Lackawanna County life support vehicle based in the physical plant building at St. Joseph's. We talked with Tezzano and Evans, we rode the unit with them; we ate lunch and dinner with them in the hospital cafeteria.

We delved into their lives and personalities in an effort to discover what makes the 19 paramedics and six emergency medical technicians employed by CMC Mobile 1 and Carbondale's Mobile 2 tick. (Most of them are bachelors, with four of them married within recent months. There's one woman, Georgette Cerra of Thorpe, an LPN and mother of two, who's been on Mobile 1 about a year.)

amount of compensation would be adequate if the Mobile 2 attendants were not as dedicated as they are.

Yet every day, sometimes every hour on Mobile 1, something dramatic happens — some life-threatening event occurs that requires the services of these highly-trained, greatly concerned professionals.

(Editor's note: Next week the Carbondale Mirror looks at the "really fulfilling work" the paramedics do.)

They do this in 12-hour shifts, on a 24-hour, around-the-clock basis.

It surely isn't the glamour of "Code Red" or "Emergency."

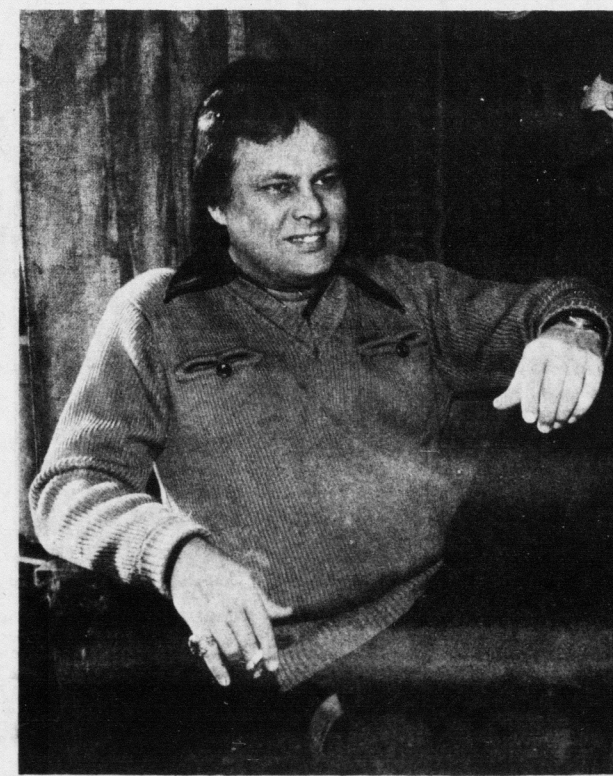
There's nothing glamorous about the long hours of testing and maintaining equipment, monitoring ambulance calls, and the frenzied, frantic, moment-by-moment-dash to save yet another life.

Of course there's a certain excitement involved. The paramedics admit that "each call is different. You never know what you have. You don't get bored." But the hours between calls can be monotonous.

It's not just the money, although the salaries are good, and benefits excellent. No amount of compensation would be adequate if the Mobile 2 attendants were not as dedicated as they are.

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ALLYN BENSON, choreographer-director of upcoming Encore Theatre's production of Cabaret, relaxes. See story this page about the energetic city resident. (MIRROR photo by Ros-Al)

Lakeland's solar water heater is only one in this part of state

By NAN WATERS

Lakeland Junior-Senior High School, Route 247, Scott Township, recently installed a supplementary solar energy domestic water heating system at a cost of some \$157,000, thought to be the only school installation of its kind in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Obtained through a matching federal funding grant, the system cost the school district only \$74,763, and, based on 1980 fuel heating figures, is expected to save Lakeland approximately \$4,000 this year alone.

Only one in area

Philip A. Clark, president of Thermoscan Inc., 723 S. State St., Clarks Summit, told the Carbondale Mirror this week that the Lakeland grant, administered through the state Governor's Energy Council, is only one of 22 such grants his company has secured

for schools and hospitals from the federal government, but Lakeland is the only area school to have the system installed so far.

P. A. Clark, Inc. is the architectural engineering firm affiliated with Thermoscan Inc. One thousand, one hundred twenty square feet of solar collectors have been built on the (southern exposure) roof of the 116,000 square-foot pre-cast concrete school structure, which is approximately 8-years-old.

The collectors feed a solar tank — or heat exchanger — which holds 400 gallons of water, and was installed in Lakeland's mechanical (or boiler) room. Well water that was originally fed into an electric hot water heater at 56 degrees is now pre-heated by solar energy to 120 degrees.

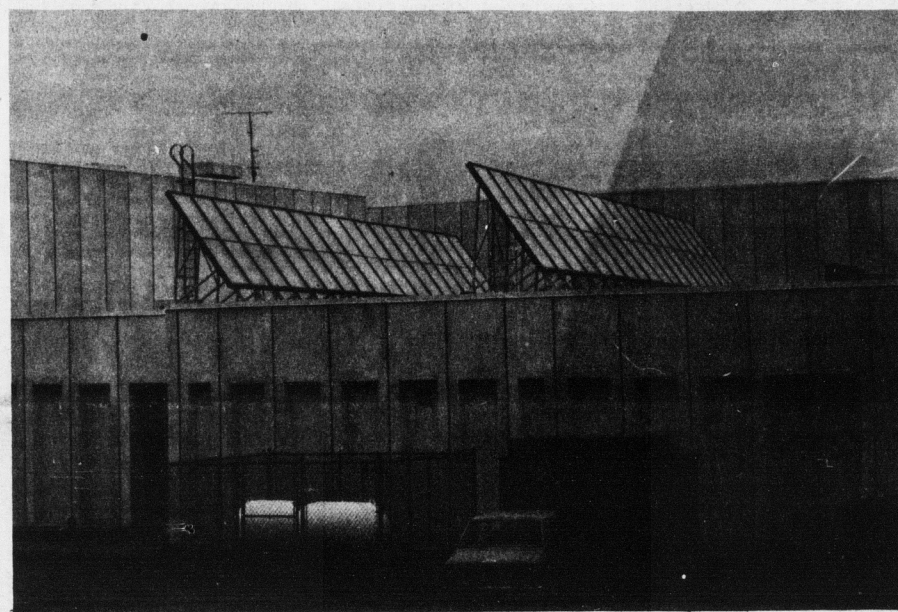
Clark stressed that this is a supplemental, not a new system. The school itself is heated by electricity.

Heating water electrically for dishwashers in the cafeteria, gym showers and bathrooms cost Lakeland about \$3,800 last year. Clark pointed out.

**40 to 60 percent
savings annually**

Considering PP&L's 15 to 18 percent increase, he figures the school district's savings this year at some \$4,000, or an annual savings of 40 to 60 percent. So far, Clark added, the system has been working successfully since its inception last month.

Included in the federal program were funds for insulation around windows in the cafeteria and school library, and replacement of a number of cracked windows. Also included was \$55,000 for roof insulation, although that expense had already been budgeted by the school district.



SOLAR COLLECTORS atop Lakeland Junior-Senior High School roof are unique to this area. See story this page. (MIRROR photo by Ros-Al)

Will the real 'Kip Allyn' please take a bow?

By NAN WATERS

His real name is Allyn Benson. His stage name, doncha know, was Kip Allyn.

And the Allyn-Sands Revue, the popular night club show in northeastern Pennsylvania, derives from his name, and Sands for Frank Santoro, his pianist and co-vocalist.

The kids (i.e., young people) who are working under his direction for the Encore Theatre production of "Cabaret," debuting Dec. 5, know him as "Mr. Talent."

He didn't particularly want to be photographed for the Carbondale Mirror, and he didn't, during an interview in our office, want to "discuss a lot of trivial background."

"Why don't you ask the people I'm working with?" Allyn Benson suggested.

And so we did. During an evening rehearsal of "Cabaret" at Carbondale Area High School, where it will be performed the first two weekends in December, we talked with some of the dancers whom Benson, as director-choreographer, puts through their paces.

We heard things like "It's great experience working with Allyn." "He taught us everything we know." "He gets the best out of us." "He's taught us all to work together." "He doesn't lose his cool often but when he does, we know he means business."

Talent, real talent

The word "talent" kept popping up. Real talent. Unusual talent. Enormously talented.

We looked for something negative. It makes for better copy than saccharine prose.

We couldn't find anything. We talked with him for almost an hour in our office. We went to rehearsal. We watched as Allyn, in red sweater, slim black

pants and dance shoes, directed the large company on the high school stage.

He was calm and soft spoken. He gave directions with authority, but seldom raised his voice.

Two nights before, we had seen him perform with Santoro and company at the annual Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church Harvest Festival.

We were aware of the enormous energy, the charisma with which he held the large audience in the palm of his hand.

Rapid, clever intros
He wrote much of the musical material for the Allyn-Sands Revue — rapid, clever intros to new songs and sides-but-goodies that he, Jeanne Lombardo, and Frank Santoro perform. In addition to the multiple rehearsals for "Cabaret," 118 revues appear Tuesday evenings at Woodloch Pines, Hawley, the After Five Supper Club, Dickson City, Sundays, Strickland's Mountain Inn, Mondays, and also at White Beauty View Inn, Lake Wallenpaupack.

He's also rehearsing the annual Christmas dinner show for the After Five, (by reservation only) Dec. 13, 14 and 15.

We watched and listened to his revues "Cabaret," "New York, New York," a demanding, thundering performance that always brings down the house. No, he told us afterwards, he doesn't take vitamins. We understand he also doesn't eat or drink anything before a show.

A Carbondale native, Benson has toured the country with road companies of the Broadway shows, "Lil' Abner" and "Pajama Game." He has worked in radio and TV in California.

Returning to the Pioneer City in 1974, he opened a school of dance.

He directed the West Side Players in "West Side Story" and "Sound of Music." He choreographed their production of "Godspell."

His toughest assignment? "O' Judas," an original religious musical by Carbondale's Joe DeMark.

"It was my biggest challenge," he says now of the show which attracted not only local but Broadway interest.

His dance training included the Judi-Terr Dance Studio and Garden State Academy of Ballet in New Jersey, Van Wagner School of Ballet and American Academy of Ballet of New York, Montreal School of Dance and Dance Workshop America in Los Angeles. His education includes the High School of Fine Arts and Newark Prep School in New Jersey, and Pratt University of New York City.

His big dream?

And his big dream? To open a school of drama, dance and music in Northeastern Pennsylvania — "since there is so much talent in the area not being used." His night club work "pays the bills," he explains it.

In addition to directing and choreographing "Cabaret," Benson is also playing the role of the haughty, simpering Master of Ceremonies at the Kit Kat Club, the Berlin night club where the musical unfolds. It's a role he has always wanted to play.

Allyn Benson has the soft, lustrous eyes and the grace of a gazelle — he's serious about his craft and his profession. He's well respected among the people he works with. He has many friends, acquaintances, and fans among the folks in his own hometown.

How could the bright lights of Broadway compare with that?